

## Environmental Protection Agency

## § 164.101

(5) Failure to appear at the hearing;  
(6) Failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, or direct or collateral estoppel.

(7) That there is no genuine issue of any material fact and that the respondent is entitled to judgment as a matter of law; or

(8) Such other and further reasons as are just.

(b) *Effect.* A decision rendered under this section shall have the same force and effect as an initial decision entered under § 164.90.

### APPEALS

#### § 164.100 Appeals from or review of interlocutory orders or rulings.

Except as provided herein, appeals as a matter of right shall lie to the Environmental Appeals Board only from an initial or accelerated decision of the Administrative Law Judge. Appeals from other orders or rulings shall, except as provided in this section, lie only if the Administrative Law Judge certifies such orders or rulings for appeal, or otherwise as provided. The Administrative Law Judge may certify an order or ruling for appeal to the Environmental Appeals Board when: (a) The order or ruling involves an important question of law or policy about which there is substantial ground for difference of opinion; and (b) either (1) an immediate appeal from the order and ruling will materially advance the ultimate termination of the proceeding or (2) review after the final judgment is issued will be inadequate or ineffective. The Administrative Law Judge shall certify orders or rulings for appeal only upon the request of a party. If the Environmental Appeals Board determines that certification was improvidently granted, or takes no action within thirty (30) days of the certification, the appeal shall be deemed dismissed. When an order or ruling is not certified by the Administrative Law Judge, it shall be reviewed by the Environmental Appeals Board only upon appeal from the initial or accelerated decision except when the Environmental Appeals Board determines, upon request of a party and in exceptional circumstances, that delaying review would be deleterious to vital public or

private interests. Except in extraordinary circumstances proceedings will not be stayed pending an interlocutory appeal; where a stay is granted, a stay of more than 30 days must be approved by the Environmental Appeals Board. Ordinarily, the interlocutory appeal will be decided on the basis of the submission made to the Administrative Law Judge, but the Environmental Appeals Board may allow further briefs and oral argument.

[57 FR 5343, Feb. 13, 1992]

#### § 164.101 Appeals from or review of initial decisions.

(a) *Exceptions and request for oral argument.* (1) Within 20 days after the filing of the Administrative Law Judge's initial decision, each party may take exception to any matter set forth in such decision or to any adverse order or ruling to which he objected during the hearing and may appeal such exceptions to the Environmental Appeals Board for decision by filing them in writing with the hearing clerk, including a section containing proposed findings of fact, conclusions, orders, or rulings. Within the same period of time each party filing exceptions and amicus curiae shall file with the hearing clerk a brief concerning each of the exceptions being appealed. The party shall include, in its brief, page references to the relevant portions of the record and to the Administrative Law Judge's initial decision.

(2) Within 7 days of the service of exceptions, and of a brief under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, any other party or amicus curiae may file and serve a brief responding to exceptions or arguments raised by any other party. Such brief shall include references to the relevant portions of the record. Such brief shall not, however, raise additional exceptions.

(3) Five copies of all material filed under this section shall be filed with the hearing clerk.

(b) *Review by Administrator when no exceptions are filed.* If no exceptions are filed within the time provided, the hearing clerk shall notify the Administrator 30 days from the date of filing of the Administrative Law Judge's initial decision. Within 10 days after said notification, the Environmental Appeals